NEWS RELEASE Luther Strange Alabama Attorney General



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AG STRANGE LAUNCHES 2013 SAFE SCHOOLS INITIATIVE, INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

(MONTGOMERY) — Attorney General Luther Strange is reinstituting the Attorney General's Safe Schools Initiative with a new emphasis on encouraging technological advances to deal with the challenges experienced by today's schools and students. In a letter sent last week, the Attorney General notified Alabama schools and invited nominations for the 2013 Awards of Excellence.

"The issue of ensuring safe schools for our students has never been more important," said Attorney General Strange. "These awards have previously provided the opportunity to identify and recognize excellence in school safety. With the revitalization of this program, special emphasis will be placed on the use of technology to ensure that our schools are safe," wrote Attorney General Strange to principals and superintendents throughout the state. "My office will also be available to provide constructive feedback to the nominees on how they might improve their existing school safety plans."

Awards will be presented this fall "to a winning school from each of the eight state school board districts that has demonstrated an exceptional and safe learning environment," said Attorney General Strange. He will visit these winning schools in the fall to personally present the award in honor of each school's accomplishment.

Nominations are being accepted now through June 7. More information about criteria for the awards may be found at the Attorney General's website, www.ago.alabama.gov. The nominations will be reviewed by an independent panel of judges, and one school from each state school board district will be selected as a recipient of the Alabama Safe Schools Initiative 2013 Award of Excellence.



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